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# **CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER**

96-HOUR REPORT

19 JANUARY 2021

# (U) CALIFORNIA

# (U) Bell – FBI Seeks Public's Help Finding Military Humvee Stolen from National Guard Facility

(U) Authorities are asking for the public's help finding an armored combat vehicle stolen from a National Guard facility in Bell. The FBI's Major Theft Task Force in LA, along with multiple other agencies, is investigating the vehicular theft of a \$120K militarized High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle. Theft from a military facility, or any government property, is a violation of federal law and carries a statutory maximum of 10 years in federal prison.

SOURCE: 16 January 2021, KTLA News

### (U) Napa - Man Held on \$5M Bond after Five Pipe Bombs, Illegal Weapons Discovered

(U) A northern California man remained held on a \$5 million bond after Napa County Sheriff's deputies uncovered five pipe bombs, as well as a cache of illegal assault rifles, automatic weapons, more than 15,000 rounds of ammunition and other "bomb-making material" at his home and business in Napa. The sheriff's office notified federal authorities about the cache of weapons, though it remains too early to confirm whether there is any connection to potential armed protests expected at state Capitols on Inauguration Day.

SOURCE: 18 January 2021, Fox News

#### (U) Sacramento – Sheriff's Deputy and K-9 Killed in Shootout at Cal Expo; Suspect Dead

(U) A Sacramento County Sheriff's Deputy and K-9 were killed in a shootout on Cal Expo grounds. The shootout began after the suspect led officers in a short pursuit and refused to comply with deputies' orders. Two other officers were struck by gunfire and transported to the hospital. Authorities shot and killed the suspect.

SOURCE: 19 January 2021, Sacramento Bee

# (U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

#### (U) Texas – Border Patrol Agents Thwart Human Smuggling Attempt, Arrest Two Offenders

(U) Laredo – US Border Patrol agents stopped a human smuggling attempt involving a U-Haul rental box truck in south Laredo and apprehended 114 illegal aliens. After responding to the scene based on information of illegal activity, agents discovered the 114 individuals in the cargo area of the truck and provided them with personal protective equipment before taken them into custody. The individuals were from a variety of countries and in the US illegally. Border Patrol agents seized the rental truck. SOURCE: 15 January 2021, <u>US CBP Press Release</u>

# (U) Texas-Border Patrol Agents Thwart Human Smuggling Attempt, Arrest Two Offenders

(U) Rio Grande Valley— US Border Patrol agents shut down two stash houses in the Rio Grande Valley area containing 30 undocumented individuals. The first stash house was located in Edinburg, where three undocumented individuals were taken into custody. The second incident occurred in Roma, where 27 were located and arrested.

SOURCE: 15 January 2021, Valley Central News

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#### (U) NATIONAL

# (U) District of Columbia – FBI Probing if Foreign Governments Funded Extremists in Capitol Attack

(U) Washington – The FBI is investigating whether foreign governments, organizations or individuals provided financial support to extremists who helped plan and execute the 6 January attack on the Capitol. The Bureau is examining payments of \$500K in bitcoin, apparently by a French national, to key figures and groups in the alt-right before the riot. The examination of possible foreign influence related to the Capitol riot comes after years of mounting evidence that Russia and other foreign adversaries seek to support political extremists on the far right and far left.

SOURCE: 16 January 2021, NBC News

# (U) Florida – Authorities Arrest Suspect for Inciting Violence at the Florida Capitol Building

(U) Tallahassee – Federal law enforcement arrested a subject in Tallahassee for transmission, in interstate commerce, of a communication containing a threat to kidnap or to injure. The subject issued a call to arms for like-minded individuals to violently confront protestors gathered at the Florida Capitol. He specifically called for others to join him in encircling any protestors and confining them at the Capitol complex using firearms. The suspect has a history of expressing his belief in violent tactics and faces multiple years in prison if convicted.

SOURCE: 15 January 2021, US DOJ

### (U) Ohio- Man Charged with Online Threats, Witness Tampering

(U) Wilmington – Authorities arrested an Ohio man for making interstate threats and threatening a witness. The charges stem from the suspect's alleged communications online related to his participation in the 6 January riot at the US Capitol. After multiple posts about his participation in the riot, the suspect received comments from concerned citizens. The suspect then threatened the life of those commenters in multiple messages, which led to both charges.

SOURCE: 15 January 2021, WLWT News

#### (U) New Jersey – Individual with 'Secret' Security Clearance at Navy Base Charged in Capitol Riot

(U) Colts Neck – Authorities in New Jersey charged a US Navy contractor, who possessed a "secret" security clearance, with taking part in the US Capitol riot. The suspect, described as an "avowed white supremacist and Nazi sympathizer" in court papers, allegedly told other rioters to "advance" during the deadly 6 January siege. The suspect was charged with five federal counts including disorderly conduct and obstructing law enforcement.

SOURCE: 17 January 2021, NY Post

### (U) New Mexico – County Commissioner Charged for Breaching US Capitol

(U) Otero County – Authorities arrested a New Mexico County commissioner for knowingly entering and remaining in a restricted building without lawful entry. The suspect was present at the US Capitol on 6 January and had posted videos to his social media page indicating that he intended to return to Washington DC on 20 January and "plant our flag" on House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's desk. The suspect was arrested in DC after returning to participate in an Inauguration protest.

SOURCE: 17 January 2021, US DOJ

# (U) Pennsylvania – Capitol Rioter Plotted to Sell Stolen Pelosi Laptop to Russian Intelligence

(U) Harrisburg – Authorities revealed in court documents that a Pennsylvania woman, accused of being one of the Capitol rioters, told a former "romantic partner" she planned to steal a laptop computer from House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's office and sell it to Russian intelligence. The suspect, recently

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charged with disorderly conduct, "intended to send the computer device to a friend in Russia, who then planned to sell the device to Russia's foreign intelligence service," according to the witness. The device and circumstances of the suspect's actions remain under investigation.

SOURCE: 18 January 2021, NBC News

# (U) Texas-Suspect Arrested for Making Threats Regarding Events at the US Capitol

(U) Dallas – Authorities charged and arrested a Texas man with making threats regarding the riots at the US Capitol last week. The suspect traveled to Washington DC area on 6 January and later posted threats regarding the riots. The threats included messages that he and others would return to the US Capitol on 19 January with weapons and massing in numbers so large than no army could match them. He further stated that he and others would "hunt these cowards down like the Traitors they are."

SOURCE: 15 January 2021, US DOJ

### (U) INTERNATIONAL

# (U) Afghanistan – US Embassy Issues Security Alert, Urges Americans to Leave Country Immediately

(U) Kabul – The US embassy in Kabul issued a security alert advising that terrorism and criminal incidents in the city are likely to escalate. The alert urges all US citizens to refrain from traveling to Afghanistan, and that the American citizens in the country should leave immediately. Terrorist attacks, kidnappings, criminal offenses, and other similar incidents have increased across Afghanistan in recent weeks according the US embassy's security alert.

SOURCE: 17 January 2021, US Embassy in Afghanistan

# (U) Guatemala – Security Forces Clash with US-bound Migrant Caravan

(U) Vado Hondo – Guatemalan security forces broke up a migrant caravan after thousands of people set off from Honduras for the US this week, just as President-elect Joe Biden prepares to enter the White House. Between 7,000 and 8,000 migrants have entered Guatemala fleeing poverty and violence in a region severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and multiple hurricanes in November. Mexican and Central American authorities have coordinated security and public health measures in a bid to deter mass movement of people across the region.

SOURCE: 17 January 2021, Reuters

# (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-636-2900.